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SEE YOUR AMERICAN HERITAGE
ON

THE PENNSYLVANIA TRAIL OF HISTORY

A GUIDE MAP TO
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC PROPERTIES
AND HISTORICAL MUSEUMS

ADMINISTERED BY
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL
AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

INTRODUCTION

Scenes out of Pennsylvania's past spring to life for the inquiring traveler on the *Pennsylvania Trail of History.* From the east of the Commonwealth to the west, the historic landmarks and the museums on the *Trail of History* offer vivid insights into the lives of people, great and small, who have had a part in the history of Pennsylvania —and of America. Visitors come by the thousands, and they testify that you too, whatever your interest, will find hours of pleasure and reward by following the same *Trail* to adventure.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a Commonwealth agency, administers and maintains the historic sites and the museums on the *Trail of History.* In addition, other agencies, public and private, maintain historic places and historical museums which are open to visitors throughout the Commonwealth.

Guides are available at most of the sites and museums along the *Trail of History.* To strengthen their impact, orientation centers are being developed at several sites. Some sites and museums make a small admission charge, which aids in the development of historical programs. Folders describing each may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Box 1026, Harrisburg 17108.

These are the historic sites and properties now open on the *Pennsylvania Trail of History:*

1. The Swedes began the settlement of New Sweden—Delaware and southeastern Pennsylvania — in 1638. In 1643, firm-handed Johan Printz became governor and that year built his capital at Essington, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Visitors may see the foundations of his Printzhof at the **GOVERNOR PRINTZ PARK,** a few blocks from the junction of Pa. 291 and 420.

2. The Finns, who were brought here by the Swedes, gave America the log cabin. One, the **MORTON HOMESTEAD,** 17th-century home of the Swedish grandfather of John Morton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, is open to visitors in Prospect Park, Delaware County, on Pa. 420 at Darby Creek.

3. William Penn, Quaker idealist and social and political reformer, established Pennsylvania in 1681. A handsome recreation of his country home, **PENNSBURY MANOR,** and its lovely grounds can be visited northeast of Philadelphia on the Delaware River. Near U. S. 1 and 13, Pennsbury can be reached south from Morrisville or east from Tullytown.

4. **GRAEME PARK** is an unusual and charming country house of the 18th century. Built by Governor Sir William Keith in 1721-22 to make beer, the building was purchased in 1739 by Dr. Thomas Graeme, Philadelphia physician, and converted to a home. It is a mile west of U. S. 611 on County Line Road, near Horsham in Montgomery County.

Ephrata Cloister

5. **HOPE LODGE** is named for Henry Hope, who gave his name to the Hope Diamond. This beautiful 18th-century Georgian house was purportedly a center of intrigue in the Revolution. **OLD MATHERS MILL,** once owned by the presumed builder of the house, is close by. Hope Lodge is on former U. S. 309 near the Fort Washington interchange (No. 26) of the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

6. **POTTSGROVE MANSION** is the exquisite home of the Potts family of 18th-century ironmasters. Begun in 1752 by John Potts, it incorporates lovely classical features and is a museum of 18th-century furnishings. Pottsgrove is on West King Street (old U. S. 422) in Pottstown, Montgomery County.

7. A mid-18th-century farmhouse, built on the foundations of Daniel Boone's log cabin birthplace and furnished in country fashion, is open to visitors to the **DANIEL BOONE HOMESTEAD** in Berks County, as are other farm buildings and a museum, a mile north of U. S. 422 at Baumstown on L. R. 06107.

8. **CONRAD WEISER PARK,** a lovely stop at Womelsdorf, Berks County, contains the small furnished stone house of the famous Conrad Weiser, who contributed much toward the maintenance of Pennsylvania's peaceful relations with the Indians before 1755. It is located on U. S. 422.

9. Iron was smelted from 1742 to 1883 at **CORNWALL FURNACE,** one of the many iron plantations in rural Pennsylvania. This well-preserved furnace is located on old U. S. 322 in Cornwall, Lebanon County.

10. Conrad Beissel, a German mystic, gathered his followers into a monastic community at Ephrata, Lancaster County, beginning in 1732. The carefully restored medieval buildings of the **EPHRATA CLOISTER** puzzle and intrigue. The Cloister stands at the junction of U. S. 322 and 222 in Ephrata.

11. A scale reproduction of **FORT AUGUSTA,** a fortification erected in 1756 to repel possible attack during the French and Indian War, is located at Sunbury, Northumberland County, on Pa. 147.

12. The **JOSEPH PRIESTLEY HOUSE,** American home of the 18th-century Englishman who was a Unitarian theologian and the discoverer of oxygen, may be visited in Northumberland on Priestley Avenue.

13. **WARRIOR RUN CHURCH,** a beautiful Greek Revival country church, is located on Pa. 147 north of McEwensville, Northumberland County.

14. Old **TUSCARORA ACADEMY,** an early private school at Academia in Juniata County, is located southwest from U. S. 322 at Mifflintown on L. R. 437, between Pa. 35 and 75.

15. At the entrance to Caledonia State Park at the junction of Pa. 233 and U. S. 30 in Franklin County is a re-created **THADDEUS STEVENS' BLACKSMITH SHOP.** Here stood his iron furnace, once burned by Confederates.

16. **BROWN'S MILL SCHOOL** is a well-preserved and appropriately furnished example of an old country schoolhouse. It is located east of U. S. 11 on L. R. 28032, near Marion in Franklin County.

17. **ADMIRAL PEARY PARK** honors Robert E. Peary, Pennsylvania arctic explorer, who became in 1909 the first man to reach the North Pole. This memorial is just west of Allegheny Mountain on U. S. 22 at Cresson, Cambria County.

18. Northeast of Bedford, off Pa. 26 near Saxton, is the **CAPTAIN PHILLIPS' RANGERS MEMORIAL,** marking the site of a Revolutionary skirmish.

19. U. S. 40 was the first National Road, begun in the early 19th century. When it became a State road in 1835, the **SEARIGHTS TOLLHOUSE** was erected west of Uniontown. It is at the side of U. S. 40.

20. David Bradford, a principal figure in the Whiskey Rebellion, built his home, the **DAVID BRADFORD HOUSE,** in Washington, Pa., at 173 South Main Street. The rebellion in 1794 caused President Washington to travel to Bedford from the capital at Philadelphia. Bradford fled the country.

21. Colonel Henry Bouquet defeated Indian warriors at **BUSHY RUN BATTLEFIELD** in 1763, which helped open western Pennsylvania to settlement. The battlefield is on Pa. 993 west of Greensburg in Westmoreland County.

22. George Rapp established a Pietistic celibate society of work and prayer, **OLD ECONOMY VILLAGE,** in Ambridge, now on Pa. 65 at the Ohio River. Here these pious Germans prospered in agriculture and industry. Many of their buildings remain.

23. **OLD STONE HOUSE** is a reconstructed and authentically furnished wayside tavern, built in 1822. It is twelve miles north of Butler on Pa. 8.

24. **JOHNSTON'S TAVERN** began offering food and lodging to weary travelers in 1831. It is on U. S. 19 a mile north of Leesburg, Mercer County.

25. **DRAKE WELL MUSEUM** near Titusville (the museum is in Venango County) presents a full-scale replica of the engine shed and derrick built over the world's first oil well, which was drilled on that spot by Edwin L. Drake in 1859. A large museum tells the story of the Pennsylvania oil country.

26. **PITHOLE CITY,** off Pa. 227 north of Plumer, Venango County, is the site of a famous oil boom town of 15,000, established in 1865 and abandoned two years later.

27. Major George Washington, sent by Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia in 1753 to warn the French away from the Pennsylvania frontier, traveled as far as **FORT LE BOEUF,** Waterford, Erie County, to confront the French commander. The foundation of a later American fort can be seen at the site on U. S. 19. There is also a museum.

28. The reconstructed **FLAGSHIP NIAGARA,** at the foot of State Street in Erie, recalls the stirring victory of Captain Oliver Hazard Perry over the British on Lake Erie in 1813. The "Niagara" and other ships in Perry's fleet were built in Erie.

Flagship Niagara

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29. The **OLD CUSTOM HOUSE,** Erie, an impressive Greek Revival structure built in 1839 for the United States Bank, and the adjoining **CASHIER'S HOUSE** are being restored. They are at 409 State Street.

These are the museums now open on the *Trail of History:*

1. Historic locomotives and railroad rolling stock to be displayed in the **RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA** —construction to begin in 1970—can be seen across Pa. 741 from the Strasburg Railroad station at Strasburg, Lancaster County.

2. The **PENNSYLVANIA FARM MUSEUM** at Landis Valley shows visitors the buildings, homes, crafts, tools, utensils, equipment, and decorative arts of country life in the 19th century. This museum village is on U. S. 222 near Lancaster.

3. The **WILLIAM PENN MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES BUILDING** in Harrisburg is the heart of the Historical and Museum Commission's activities. Exhibits tell about Pennsylvania industry, transportation, arts, crafts, geology, and natural environment and its Indian archeology and its history. Here are kept the archives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

4. The coal miners' village of Eckley, with a re-created coal breaker and company store, is phase one in the creation of a **PENNSYLVANIA ANTHRACITE MUSEUM**. Eckley is northeast of Hazelton, Luzerne County, off Pa. 940.

5. The **PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY MUSEUM,** located at the 28th Division Shrine in Boalsburg, Centre County, on U. S. 322, depicts the service of the citizen soldier in America's wars. The Shrine commemorates the achievements of a famous Pennsylvania Division during the First World War.

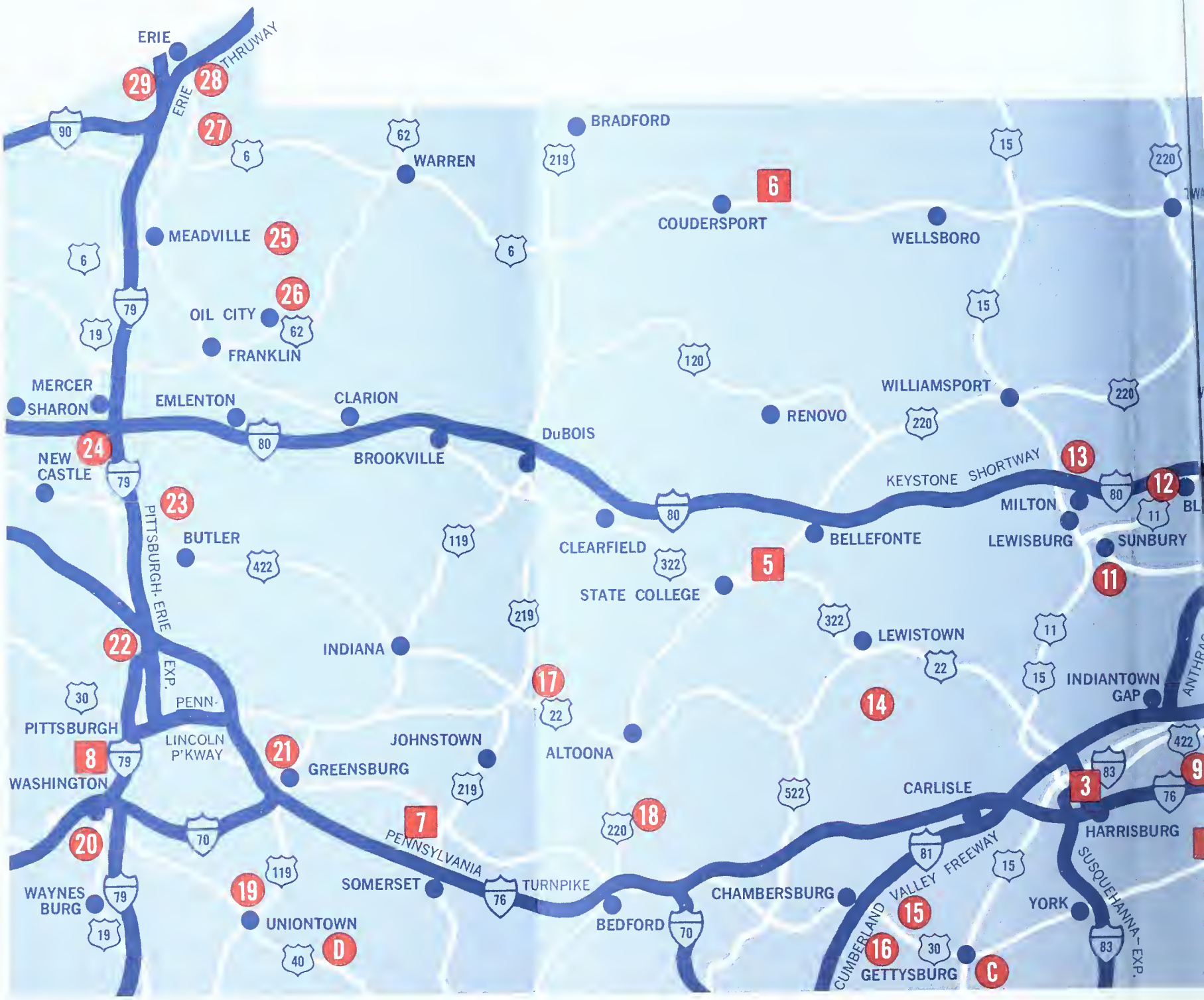
6. Lumbering was a major Pennsylvania industry; its history will be depicted in the new **PENNSYLVANIA LUMBER MUSEUM** on U. S. 6 between Coudersport and Galeton, Potter County, next to Denton Hill State Park. The orientation building is to be opened in 1970.

7. The **SOMERSET HISTORICAL CENTER,** to be opened in 1970, will tell the history of the Laurel Highlands region of Pennsylvania. It is on U. S. 219 north of Somerset, in Somerset County, near the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

8. The **FORT PITT MUSEUM** in a re-created bastion in Point Park, Pittsburgh, depicts the struggle for empire between France and Britain in western Pennsylvania and the old northwest. It tells as well the history of Fort Duquesne, Fort Pitt, and early Pittsburgh.

HISTORICAL PROPERTIES AND MUSEUMS OF PENNSYLVANIA

There are other places to visit for those with historical interests. The leading cities have significant museums, and most of the counties have historical societies, many with museums and some with historic houses.



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National Park Service

A INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PAR
B HOPEWELL VILLAGE
C GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK
D FORT NECESSITY

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